1/11/67

Dear Mr. Bernabei,

My wife had told me of your call when I phoned her. Sorry I wasn't home. I'd gone to N.O. to help Garrison, as I have three times now when it was possible. I'd written the book before I went there for the first time. Although it seems to have been publicly credited to others, it should now be apparent that those he is subpoenaing as witnesses come from my work. This is not what I helped him with. I developed and interviewed new witnesses in the Quarter and the Cuban colony.

I have yet to see the Playboy review. In fact, although I had been told it was to be done, I had not been told the date of issue or of its appearance. If it is not too much trouble, I'd appreciate a Xerox. I may not get to buy it. That book even the reduced the number of shoulders Max Lerner has, which is quite an accomplishment, although it in no way impaired his capacity for carrying the same amount of water on each.

The reaction you report from Canadians is consistent with what I have felt from them. I think Kennedy had an impact on people that was not, really, understood or even realized during his lifetime. And I think as he came to be aware of it and to believe it he changed, his Presidency with him. This may be one of the reasons for his murder.

The assorted slanders and libels blended with obfuscations that is the misrepresentation of my work and purposes has, to those who have not read it, served to disguise the basic fact: if I succeed I will not have damaged the government but will strengthen it, restore to it a measure of the respect and belief it has forfeited and, quite literally, have helped recapture the national honor. It is not merely a major crime to which I address myself but the integrity of our society.

I understand your letter quite well, and I feel it. If you reread the dedication of my first books, I think you will understand it. And, of course, your conclusions are inevitable. This is why we continue in the face of the impending bankruptcy. And, we will do it!

Hastily,